

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 01463 190058Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 SS-15 DHA-02  
AID-05 IO-13 /067 W  
-----107639 190211Z /70

R 190030Z JUL 77  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8211  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1463

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EGEN, CH  
SUBJ: TANGSHAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

REF: PEKING 281

1. USLO OFFICER WHO TRAVELED THROUGH EARTHQUAKE-  
DEVASTATED TANGSHAN BY TRAIN LAST FEBRUARY AGAIN  
PASSED THROUGH CITY ON JULY 18. FOLLOWING ARE HIS  
OBSERVATIONS ON THE PRESENT APPEARANCE OF THE CITY.

2. ALMOST ONE YEAR AFTER THE DISASTROUS QUAKE,  
TANGSHAN RETAINS THE APPEARANCE OF A DEVASTATED  
CITY. THE CRUDE STONE AND BRICK SHELTERS WHICH  
WERE CONSTRUCTED IN THE MIDST OF THE DEVASTATION  
REMAIN, ALTHOUGH MANY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT  
IMPROVED AND STRENGTHENED. THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS  
IN CLEANING UP SOME OF THE RUBBLE AND IN OPENING  
UP BLOCKED STREETS, BUT MOST OF THE WORK  
APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DONE WITHOUT THE HELP  
OF BULLDOZERS OR OTHER EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT.  
THERE WAS STILL NO EVIDENCE OF LARGE-SCALE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 01463 190058Z

CLEARING OR RECONSTRUCTION. FACTORIES  
LOCATED ALONG THE RAILROAD TRACKS LOOKED  
JUST AS THEY DID IN FEBRUARY, WITH NO EFFORT  
TO REBUILD THEM. PART OF THE RAILROAD YARD,  
HOWEVER, HAD BEEN CLEARED OF MANY OF THE  
DAMAGED PASSENGER AND FREIGHT CARS AND SEVERAL  
ADDITIONAL SIDINGS WERE IN USE. TO THE WEST

OF THE CITY SMOKE COULD BE SEEN COMING FROM  
FACTORY CHIMNEYS AND IT APPEARED THAT A NUMBER OF  
FACTORIES WERE IN OPERATION. UNDOUBTEDLY, RECONSTRUCTION OF  
CERTAIN FACTORIES HAS HAD A HIGH PRIORITY.

3. THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, IN CONTRAST,  
APPEARED TO BE GOOD IN THE VICINITY OF THE CITY. ALL FIELDS  
WERE PLANTED AND CROPS GENERALLY APPEARED TO BE DOING WELL.

4. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SPECULATION THAT THE CHINESE PLAN TO  
BUILD A NEW CITY, RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO REBUILD THE PRESENT ONE,  
NO EVIDENCE COULD BE SEEN FROM THE TRAIN THAT SUCH AN EFFORT  
IS UNDERWAY. OUTSIDE THE CITY IN SEVERAL AREAS, SHELTERS AND  
OTHER STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN NEWLY BUILT, BUT THEY DO NOT APPEAR  
TO BE PART OF A COORDINATED PLAN TO CONSTRUCT A NEW CITY.  
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EARTHQUAKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PEKING01463  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770267-1051  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770740/aaaabisu.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ac4a9a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 PEKING 281  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1812039  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TANGSHAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE  
**TAGS:** EGEN, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ac4a9a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009